

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning page 19 line 29 as follows:

FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram illustrating some of the functional components within client computer system 32 that may be utilized to implement an embodiment of the present invention. Note that in FIGS. 2 and 3 identical parts are represented by identical reference numerals. As mentioned above, client system 32 can be any node on a computer network including computational capability and including a mechanism for communication across network 30. In the illustrated embodiment, client system 32 includes user biometric interface 62, networking code 64 and adapter 66. These functional components can be implemented in software running on, for example, a client CPU. UBiometric user interface 62 provides a mechanism through which user 33 can operate client system 32. Networking code 64 may include a library of functions, which allow client system 32 to communicate across network 30. Adapter 66 may include a collection of functions that implement the client portion of a biometric authentication system according to one embodiment of the present invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 22 line 1 as follows:

The components illustrated in FIG. 3 can operate as follows. User 33 initiates the biometric authentication process by seeking access to resources on a host system, such as host system 48 of FIG. 2, through biometric user interface 62. This causes authentication code within adapter 66 to initiate communications with host system 48 (i.e., host system 48 illustrated in FIG. 2). This authentication code within adapter 66 may additionally initiate operations within sealed hardware unit 58 to gather a biometric attribute as a biometric sample from user 33 through scanner 60. These authentication operations are described in more detail below with reference to the flow charts in FIGS. 5 and 6.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 30 line 22 as follows:

FIG. 7 depicts a pictorial diagram 200 of a biometric user interface 202 that may be implemented in accordance with the present invention. In the drawing illustrated in FIG. 7, biometric user interface 202 is shown, for example, at three different moments in time. Biometric user interface 202 can be analogous to biometric user interface 642 of FIG. 3. Those skilled in the art can appreciate that a biometric user interface 202 may be of many forms depending on the type of biometric sample being requested, obtained and/or utilized. As indicated previously, a user can be requested by electronic system to provide a one or more biometric samples for authentication purposes. Biometric samples may be of different types (e.g., voice, fingerprint, eye, etc.).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31 line 5 as follows:

The user may be prompted to input biometric samples randomly selected by the electronic system from a user profile containing biometric attributes previously obtained from the user. Biometric user interface 202 may be integrated with an electronic system, for example, an ATM machine, or a secure door that accesses a secure area, such as a government building or military complex. In the example depicted in FIG. 7, biometric user interface 202 includes an iris scanner 208 and a fingerprint scanner 206. Fingerprint scanner 206 may be integrated with a display area 204, which may also be integrated with iris scanner 208.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31 line 17 as follows:

Input of a biometric attribute by a user to biometric user interface 202 may be based on the random selection of a biometric attribute from a user profile. The number of biometric attributes requested from a user may also be based on a random number. For example, during one authentication session, a user may be requested to provide a left index fingerprint and a left iris scan. During another authentication session, the same user may be required to provide

a left index fingerprint, followed by the fingerprint of his or her right middle finger, and immediately thereafter, an iris scan of a left eye, or perhaps, a right eye.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 32 line 11 as follows:

Those skilled in the art can also appreciate that other biometric scanning devices may also be integrated with the biometric user interface 202, such as, for example, a retina scanner, palm scanner, voice print scanner, and so forth. Thus, the example illustrated in FIG. 7 should not be interpreted as limiting the invention. The drawing illustrated in FIG. 7 merely represents one possible embodiment in which the present invention may be implemented.